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II. LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-63. (Canceled)

64. (Previously Presented) A method of preparing a library of compounds of the formula:

$$L-X-L$$

wherein

each L is independently a ligand which binds to a cell membrane transporter; and X is a linker of the formula:

$$-X'-Z-(Y'-Z)_m-Y''-Z-X'-$$

wherein

m is an integer of from 0 to 20;

X' at each separate occurrence is selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -NH-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)NH- and a covalent bond;

Z at each separate occurrence is selected from the group consisting of alkylene, cycloalkylene, alkynylene, arylene, heteroarylene, heterocyclene and a covalent bond;

Y' and Y" at each separate occurrence are selected from the group consisting of -C(O)NR'-, -NR'C(O)-, -NR'C(O)NR'-, -C(=NR')-NR'-, -NR'--C(=NR')-, -NR'--C(O)-O-, -P(O)(OR')-O-, -S(O)_nCR'R"-, -S(O)_n-NR'-, -S-S- and a covalent bond; where n is 0, 1 or 2; and

R' and R" at each separate occurrence are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl and heterocyclic;

the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) identifying a ligand compound which binds to a cell membrane transporter;
- (b) providing a plurality of functionalized ligand compounds, each functionalized ligand compound comprising the ligand compound from step (a) having a reactive functional group selected

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from the group consisting of an -NH₂, -COOH, -C(O)Y, -CHO, -OH, -SH, -N=C=O and -Y group, where Y is halo; wherein the reactive functional group of each functionalized ligand compound is located at a different position relative to the other functionalized ligand compounds;

- (c) providing a linker compound comprising two reactive functional groups independently selected from the group consisting of an -NH₂, -COOH, -C(O)Y, -CHO, -OH, -SH, -N=C=O and -Y group, where Y is halo; wherein each of the reactive function groups of the linker compound has complementary reactivity to the reactive functional group of a functionalized ligand compound from step (b);
- (d) reacting the linker compound from step (c) with each of the functionalized ligand compounds from step (b) to provide a library of compounds of the formula L-X-L.
- 65. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 64, wherein the method further comprises the step of:
- (e) assaying each compound of the library from step (d) to determine its affinity for the cell membrane transporter.
- 66. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 64, wherein the linker compound has a chain length between reactive functional groups of from about 2 Å to 100 Å.
- 67. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 64, wherein the cell membrane transporter is an ion channel.
- 68. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 67, wherein the cell membrane transporter is a sodium ion channel.